



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## 01/18/2012 Minutes

Minutes for the ABAC meeting of January 18, 2012

Board members present were Christopher Tonkin, Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Scott Smith, Doug Greenfield and Ron Sender. Joey Glushko and Todd Spivak were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm.

\*Amended minutes for the December meeting were approved.

TAC report. Scott informed us that there is nothing new to report about the Mass. Ave. Redevelopment Project. He also told us that he felt that the CLAMP public meeting was constructive with many opinions and ideas presented by the public. He also felt that there were two definite constituencies: those in favor of bike lanes and those in favor of cycle tracks. We discussed the pros and cons of moving parking to Mystic St. and potential problems with pedestrians crossing the intersection diagonally. Jack wants the diagonal to be clearly marked for use by bicycles.

Joey gave us her take on the meeting which was similar to Scott's. Ron would like to see a sequential implementation of the chosen plan if money is a problem. Doing what we can afford immediately and executing more of the plan as funds become available could facilitate making some changes sooner. We also discussed making a diagonal cut for the cycle track at Swan Pl. This has the advantages of sparing parking and eliminating possible intermodal conflict at the corner of Swan Pl. and Mass. Ave. We decided that ABAC is in favor of plan 3B (bike lanes, with signals at Swan Pl.).

Recreational Trails Grant Program. Joey told us that the RFP for the program has been written and sent out to a number of consultants. The Lexington DPW is in charge of the RFP and any inquiries should be addressed to them. She estimated that the responses to the RFP should be received within six weeks.

Tri-Community meeting. Joey told us that the location of the meeting has not yet been decided. As soon as there is more information about the venue, she will let us know.

Planning for the Winter Social on March 8, 2012. Joey has the application form for the auditorium. Stephan will fill it out and send the check to the Center for the Arts. Dan Driscoll of the DCR will be the featured speaker. Jack volunteered to help Joey publicize the event. We discussed arrangements for audio-visual support.

LAB Bicycle Friendly Community application (due Feb 17). Last week there was a meeting of the working group where responsibilities for filling out sections of the application were reassigned. We spent some time discussing details about how the application should be filled out. Jack told us some anecdotes about applications from other cities and towns. Stephan asked when and how the editing process will take place. The working group will have a meeting next week to review the finished application. Jack will send us all the links for the questionnaire.

Planning for the Bike-Arlington Tour. Christopher will look into visiting the dam between the Mystic Lakes during the tour.

Bikeway/Ryder St. intersection safety issue. We discussed the fact that there are no bollards at the Ryder St./Bikeway intersection. Ron would like to see "No Motor Vehicle" signs put up at all the Bikeway/road intersections. He was told by the DPW that TAC usually requests such signs. Scott told us that all that is necessary is a reminder to the DPW since some signs have already been deployed. We thought that we should also prepare a thank you to the DPW for putting up the bollards at the Ryder St. intersection.

ABAC on the Web. Doug showed us printouts of the new ABAC home page. We discussed gaps in the present information, and what local and state information should be shown or linked to. We will link to the MassBike site for legislative information and to

the Town and TAC sites for information on the Mass. Ave. Redevelopment and the Rt. 60/Mass Ave Intersection projects. Doug invited us to make suggestions for improvements—especially additions of text. We all agreed to look at the site and make suggestions at the next meeting. Todd suggested that we stake out our real estate on Facebook in case we ever want to use it.

\*Recruiting for ABAC and for the Executive Board. We voted to endorse Ron's reappointment to the board. Joey told us that the Selectmen will act to approve the reappointment at their next meeting.

Letter in support of improvements to the Mass. Ave. corridor 75% plan. We decided that we need to formulate a letter in support of this project. Christopher will write the letter and distribute it for approval.

Safety Sign Board. This idea is to use the police electronic sign boards to show safety/awareness messages on the road in Arlington, Lexington, Bedford, Chelmsford and other towns. The signs will be moved around the towns displaying information on traffic laws and vehicular courtesy, especially related to bicycling.

Other topics. Todd told us that he wrote to ask the MBTA to change the information on their website to indicate that the busses in Arlington are equipped with bicycle racks.

\*The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

\*Denotes that a vote of the board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller